

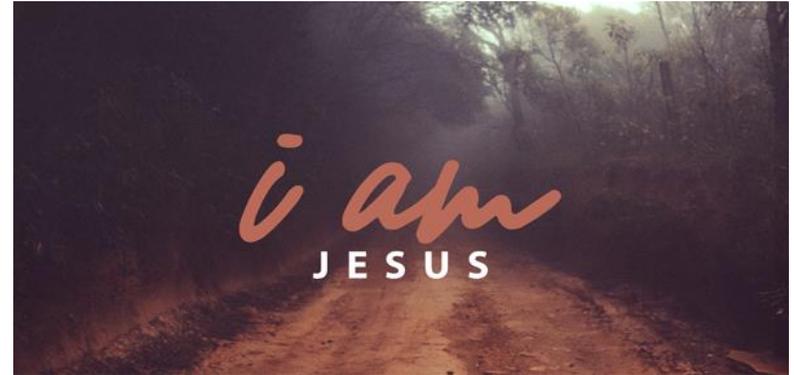
- **Love like Jesus LOVES**

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.”

John 15:12 (NIV)

“This is my command: Love each other.”

John 15:17 (NLT)



I Am the Vine

“I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.

³ You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. ⁵ “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:1-5 (NLT)

WHY IS BEING CONNECTED IMPORTANT?

God replied to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. Say this to the people of Israel: I AM has sent me to you.” Exodus 3:14 (NLT)

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.”

John 15:1 (NIV)

*Now I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a rich and fertile hill.*

*² He plowed the land, cleared its stones,
and planted it with the best vines.
In the middle he built a watchtower
and carved a winepress in the nearby rocks.
Then he waited for a harvest of sweet grapes,
but the grapes that grew were bitter.
Isaiah 5:1-2 (NLT)*

*“If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown
away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown
into the fire and burned.” John 15:6 (NIV)*

HOW DO WE STAY CONNECTED TO THE VINE?

1. Staying connected produces FRUIT

*“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in
you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”
John 15:5 (NIV)*

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against
such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)*

2. Being disconnected produces NOTHING

*“He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and
he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce
even more. ³ You have already been pruned and purified by the
message I have given you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in
you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the
vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.”
John 15:2-4 (NLT)*

*“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in
you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”
John 15:5 (NIV)*

- Do what Jesus SAYS

*“But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may
ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”
John 15:7 (NLT)*

*“When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This
brings great glory to my Father. ⁹“I have loved you even as the
Father has loved me. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ When you obey my
commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my
Father’s commandments and remain in his love.”
John 8:8-10 (NLT)*

*“I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy.
Yes, your joy will overflow! ¹² This is my commandment: Love
each other in the same way I have loved you. ¹³ There is no
greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”
John 15:11-13 (NLT)*

*“You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call
you slaves, because a master doesn’t confide in his slaves. Now
you are my friends, since I have told you everything
the Father told me.” John 15:14-15*

*“You didn’t choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and
produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever
you ask for, using my name.” John 15:16 (NLT)*